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<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2010/octoberweb-only/49-53.0.html>

North Korea holds an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 prisoners for political and religious reasons, according to the U.S. State Department's 2009 report on international religious freedom. An estimated 40,000 are religious prisoners treated worse than other inmates, according to the 2010 annual report of the **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom**.

Open Doors, an international ministry that supports and strengthens persecuted Christians, has placed North Korea at the top of its World Watch List of the worst persecutors of Christians for eight years.